

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 2862

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR SPADA

SUBJ: DANISH UNIONS DECLARE TWO-DAY TRANSPORT BOYCOTT OF SPAIN

1) THE CALL BY THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTWORKERS FEDERATION (ITF) FOR A TRANSPORT BOYCOTT OF SPAIN WILL BE FOLLOWED BY THE DANISH TRADE UNION FEDERATION (LO)-AFFILIATED GENERAL WORKERS UNION AND THE NON-AFFILIATED CHAUFFEURS UNION. THEY HAVE ANNOUNCED A BOYCOTT FOR OCTOBER 2 AND 3 OF ALL TRANSPORTATION
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BY RAIL, ROAD, SEA AND AIR TO SPAIN.

2) THE BOYCOTT WILL PRIMARILY HIT DANISH AIR TRAFFIC TO SPAIN. SAS'S DAILY FLIGHT HAS BEEN CANCELLED TOGETHER WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF CHARTER FLIGHT DEPARTURES. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT MORE THAN 3,000 DANES BOOKED ON CHARTER FLIGHTS WILL BE AFFECTED DURING THE TWO DAYS, WHILE AN EQUAL NUMBER WILL BE DELAYED IN THEIR RETURN FROM SPAIN.

3) THE PRIME MINISTER AND DANISH LABOR LEADERS HAVE URGED THEIR COUNTRYMEN TO SCRATCH SPAIN FROM THEIR HOLIDAY PLANS. THE SPANISH ECONOMY WOULD PRESUMABLY AT LEAST REGISTER THE EFFECT IF A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF DANISH TOURISTS HEEDED THIS EXHORTATION. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, DENMARK IS THE FIFTH-LARGEST TOURIST "CUSTOMER" FOR SPAIN AND ACCOUNTS FOR MORE THAN 450,000 VACATION TRIPS THERE EACH YEAR. THIS PROVIDES AN ANNUAL REVENUE TO SPAIN ESTIMATED AT \$100 MILLION. AT THE SAME TIME, DANISH INCOME FROM SPANISH TOURISTS IS INFINITESIMAL.

4) DESPITE THESE EXHORTATIONS, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THERE WILL BE A SUBSTANTIAL DEFLECTION IN PLANNED DANISH HOLIDAYS IN SPAIN. VERY PROBABLY, SPAIN - DESPITE ITS INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION - WILL CONTINUE TO BE REGARDED BY THESE SCANDINAVIANS AS A LAND OF SUN AND CHEAP VACATIONS.
LUKENS

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